



PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/653,791
		Filing Date	September 2, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
		Art Unit	2671
		Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	PTO/SB/O8A and PTO/SB/O8B in duplicate, 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Cited References, including a copy of PCT International Search Report, and Return Receipt Postcard.
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		Remarks
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Richard E. Wawrzyniak, Esq. (Reg. No. 36,048) Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery
Signature	
Date	August 10, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Sara R. Hart		
Signature		Date	August 10, 2004

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JPW

Docket No. 81617 [SC-70003US]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Akio Ohba
Application No.: 10/653,791
Filed: September 2, 2003
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Group Art Unit: 2671
Examiner: Zimmerman, Mark K.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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August 10, 2004

Date

Sara R. Hart

Sara R. Hart

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

Under 37 CFR §1.97(b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Under 37 CFR §1.97(c) together with either:

- a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e), or
- a fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p)

(after the 37 CFR §1.97(b) time period, but before the mailing date of a final Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution).

- Under 37 CFR §1.97(d) together with either:
 - a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e), and
 - a fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) (Fee Transmittal included herewith)
(after the 37 CFR §1.97(c) time period, but on or before the payment of the issue fee).
- Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1): The undersigned states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 CFR § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all patents, publications, applications and other information known by Applicants or Applicants' representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicants' representative hereby provides this Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98 and includes Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B with four (4) references listed as items AA-AD.

Copies of the items listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are enclosed.

Concise Explanation of Relevance

Item AB listed on the Form PTO/SB/08A is not in the English language.

A concise explanation of the relevance of items AA-AC are in the form of a copy of a "International Search Report" mailed April 16, 2004, issued over the corresponding Japanese Patent Application, that was mailed from a foreign patent office and issued in a counterpart foreign application, which refers to the references. The "International Search Report" mailed April 16, 2004, which is in the English language, is listed as item AD and a copy is included herewith.

IDS

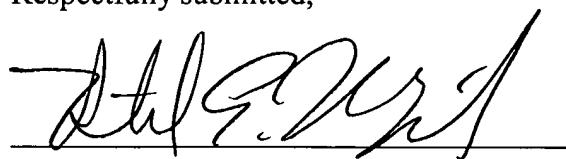
Application No. 10/653,791

In addition, item AB includes an English-language Abstract.

It is requested that the information provided herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/10/04



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/653,791
Filing Date	September 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
Art Unit	2671
Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
<p>¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.</p>			

Translation is attached.
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/653,791
				Filing Date	September 2, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
				Art Unit	2671
				Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
	AC	KWAN- LIU MA et al., "A Data Distributed, Parallel Algorithm for Ray-Traced Volume Rendering", Parallel Rendering Symposium, 1993 San Jose, CA, USA, 25-26 October 1993, New York NY, USA, IEEE, October 25, 1993, pages 15-22, XP010222611, ISBN: 0-8186-4920-8.			
	AD	PATENT COOPERATION TREATY, "International Search Report", dated April 16, 2004, for corresponding international patent application No. PCT/JP 03/11005, 4 pages.			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.
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